

**TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD  
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES  
2018-2019 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET**

**April 11, 2018 2:00 p.m.**

**Legislative Chamber**

The Public Hearing was called to Order at 2:00 p.m.

Roll call: Present: Mayor Cantor, Councilors Barnes, Davidoff, Wenograd and Williams.

Absent were Councilors Dodge, Fay, Kerrigan, and Sweeney.

Speakers:

1. Henry Tessier, 174 Overbrook Road – Concerned the tax increase is too high, School budget is higher with enrollment down, fixed income population affected
2. Teresa Burger, 174 Overbrook Road – Is against increase, find ways to reduce spending
3. Cynthia Pavey, 55 Highland Street – Concerned about unsustainable increases, rent being increased due to taxes
4. Mary Ann Sandberg, 95 St. Augustine St. – Represents parents of handicapped children, Federal Government gives funds to State, and State has not been giving towns funds for special education services, look at budget for cuts (Town and BOE)
5. Janice Ciraulo, 15 Gallaudet Drive, concerned about tax increase and unfunded pension liability, look to retiree benefits for possible savings
6. Frank McLane, 117 Cambridge St. – Tax increase is unsustainable, wants to know where the funds from business development and garages go
7. Judy Allen, 25 Fowler Dr. – Concerned about MDC tax causing increases, possibilities of sharing more services with other towns
8. George Kennedy, 19 Waterside Ln. – Education spending is unsustainable, affects seniors more, possibility of regionalization in some areas for savings, budget process should have financial advisory council
9. Murina Michelangelo, 93 Price Blvd. – Recently moved to West Hartford, agrees with previous speakers
10. Patricia Hamilton, 307 Ridgewood Rd. – Curtail expenditures, education budget is high
11. Terry Conlon, 172 North Main St. – Cut costs, require MDC and gas company to fix roads when they do repairs, BOE and town need to make cuts, State not giving town fair share, concerned about Police dept. and low staff.
12. John Souza, 21 Maiden Ln. – Concerned about his fixed income tenants with annual tax increases that force him to pass down the increase
13. Ed Gales, 152 Brace Rd. - Property owner that has to pass tax increase onto tenants, suggests outsourcing Janitorial and Cafeteria services for savings

14. Robert Rau, 38 Ravenwood Rd. – Financial Advisory committee a good idea to suggest cost reductions, require management to look at operations and identify cost savings.
15. Robert Radin, 781 Farmington Ave. – concerned that taxes will cause reduced home sales, school budget is too high, taxes should be split between education and town.
16. Shawn Daly, 1779 Asylum Ave., - tough decisions need to be made, suggesting wage & salary freezes, layoffs on BOE, reduce number of senior centers, keep police cars longer, unfunded mandates by State of CT hurt.

There being no other speakers, the Public Hearing was closed at 3:01 p.m.

Essie S. Labrot  
Town/Council Clerk